

there are one or two students involved with the actual planning of curriculum and stuff and the way courses are, but they do not have much say because they are students.

Mr. GAY. Thank you for hearing our concerns, Congressman Sanders.

#### TRIBUTE TO MARCIA NELSON

##### HON. MICHAEL PAPPAS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 1997

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge Marcia Nelson, a constituent of mine who has been an outstanding member of her community for a number of years. Soon, Marcia will leave New Jersey and head west to settle in Kansas City.

In today's society, community involvement is of extreme importance, but rarely is given ample recognition. Sometimes we take for granted the special individuals who devote their lives to the advancement of those around them. A community is shared by a group of people who each contribute in their own way. Many individuals involve themselves in one aspect of the community, but we must applaud those who go beyond this by serving many of its facets.

Marcia Nelson, a former mayor of Delaware Township, has served the community in political, educational, and social roles. Since 1989, she has committed herself to this community and its progress. She served for 8 years as the executive secretary of the Delaware Township Municipal Utilities Authority and for 6 years as a member of the township committee. She served as an educator of mathematics and acted as a research assistant for a variety of community organizations. She was an active fundraiser for her local high school and developed many programs for educational improvements. These activities in addition to many others have formed a contribution which will not soon be forgotten.

Marcia's efforts are deeply appreciated by her entire community. She has served as a role model and mentor to many of its citizens. It is for this, Mr. Speaker, that I applaud her efforts. Marcia Nelson represents the community involvement which we do not praise enough. The example which she has set is the gateway to bettering our community in the 12th district of New Jersey.

I want to wish Marcia and her husband Bob well. New Jersey will miss them both.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE HOME TELECOMMUTER TAX POLICY ACT OF 1997

##### HON. DAVID E. PRICE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 1997

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I am introducing legislation today to help a growing segment of our work force—telecommuters. This legislation supports new flexibility in the workplace by providing tax incentives for telecommuters. Specifically, this bill allows employees to deduct employer-provided telephone lines for telecommuting purposes.

The Fourth District of North Carolina includes Research Triangle Park, a hotbed of economic, business, and intellectual development. In my visits to RTP companies, management and employees alike have expressed their support for telecommuting. As more families rely on two incomes to make ends meet and as technology continues to allow more creative work environments, telecommuting is quickly becoming a more popular and more viable work option for working families. In addition, studies have shown that telecommuting employees record fewer sick days and demonstrate increased work satisfaction, two factors that contribute to higher worker productivity.

Under current law, employers can provide additional telephone lines to employees who telecommute, but these benefits are considered taxable income to the worker. My bill would create another category under the "qualified transportation fringe", a provision in the Tax Code that allows employers to provide incentives for carpooling and mass transit. This new transportation fringe would allow employers to provide up to \$60 per month in tax-exempt telecommuting benefits, most notably an additional telephone line. Telecommuting is simply another form of environmentally friendly transportation to work, and our Tax Code should reflect these priorities.

My bill would give families more control over their work, increase worker productivity for participating businesses and encourage environmentally friendly work patterns. Passage of this bill would give working families another tool to help with their balancing act between family and career. I urge my colleagues to co-sponsor the Home Telecommuter Tax Policy Act.

#### TRIBUTE TO MINNIE COX

##### HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 1997

Mr. THOMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the late Mrs. Minnie Cox. Mrs. Cox was one of only five African-Americans in Mississippi to supervise a third-class postal facility.

In 1891, Mrs. Cox, was appointed Postmistress of the Indianola Post Office in Indianola, MI, by President Benjamin Harrison. Mrs. Cox served at this position until 1893, only later to regain the post in 1897. Being a person of color, Mrs. Cox's appointment was followed by scrutiny and criticisms not because of her performance, but because of the color of her skin. Mrs. Cox dedicated her life to making sure that the people in Indianola received their mail on a timely basis. She worked 7 days a week and she even paid the rent for delinquent boxes to avoid harassment of her customers.

Mrs. Cox held this position during a time when it was not popular to have African-Americans in an authoritative position. She was an educated, aspiring, and inspiring woman during her time. Along with being a Postmistress, Mrs. Cox and her husband started one of the first African-American-owned banks in the Mississippi Delta as well as one of the first African-American-owned insurance agencies in the South. In 1904, the Cox's organized the

Delta Penn Savings Bank. Four years later, the couple organized the Mississippi Beneficial Insurance Co., which had an income of more than \$500,000 and a staff of 400 employees. During the 1910's and 1920's, she was reputed to be one of the richest African-American women in the world.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in saluting Mrs. Cox for her courage to take her place in society as a trailblazer and role model for many future generations of African-Americans.

#### BUILDING A MARITIME TEAM

##### HON. CHET EDWARDS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 1997

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, in my role as an administrative cochair of the bipartisan National Security Caucus, I had the honor of participating in a very special awards luncheon last week. I was joined by the House Democratic Leader, Congressman RICHARD GEPHARDT, and my fellow Caucus cochair, Congressman RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM, in presenting the 1997 International Security Leadership Award to U.S. Secretary of the Navy John H. Dalton.

The luncheon was attended by over 200 representatives of the national security community, and the establishment of a John H. Dalton Congressional Fellowship in Maritime Strategy Studies was also announced. The International Security Leadership Award has been presented to only one individual each year since 1979, and all of the past recipients have made significant contributions to the national security interests of the United States. Past honorees include President George Bush, Secretary of Defense William Perry, Ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick, and Senator John C. Stennis. John Dalton is a worthy addition to the distinguished list.

The award was presented to Secretary Dalton " \* \* in recognition of his leadership, courage and vision in promoting American sea power and a national maritime strategy. The outstanding performance of the U.S. Navy from the Caribbean to the Persian Gulf, in missions as diverse as evacuating non-combatants to enforcing no-fly zones, is a tribute to Secretary Dalton's tremendous dedication and distinguished service to the Navy and Marine Corps and to the nation they serve." The award was conferred on Secretary Dalton on behalf of the 290 lawmakers in the bipartisan National Security Caucus.

As someone who has the privilege of knowing John Dalton for more than 20 years, I want to once again emphasize how deserving I feel he is of this honor for his fine work as Secretary of the Navy. The Secretary's remarks at the presentation ceremony described in considerable detail some of the tremendous work he has done to make our Navy more effective and efficient. Also, Mr. GEPHARDT's introductory comments lucidly describe why Secretary Dalton is so deserving of his award. I ask unanimous consent to have both Mr. GEPHARDT's and Secretary Dalton's remarks entered in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

STATEMENT OF HOUSE DEMOCRATIC LEADER RICHARD A. GEPHARDT—PRESENTATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SECURITY LEADERSHIP AWARD TO NAVY SECRETARY JOHN DALTON

I am pleased to join you today to give tribute to Secretary of the Navy John Dalton. I